

BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



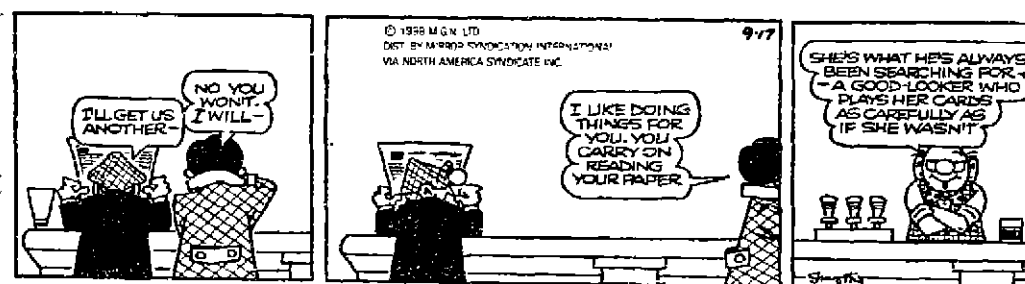
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



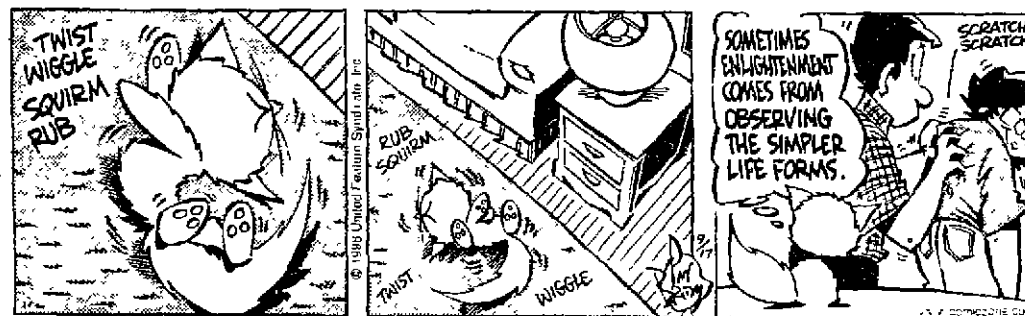
9 CHICKWEED LANE



ANDY CAPP



ROSE IS ROSE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



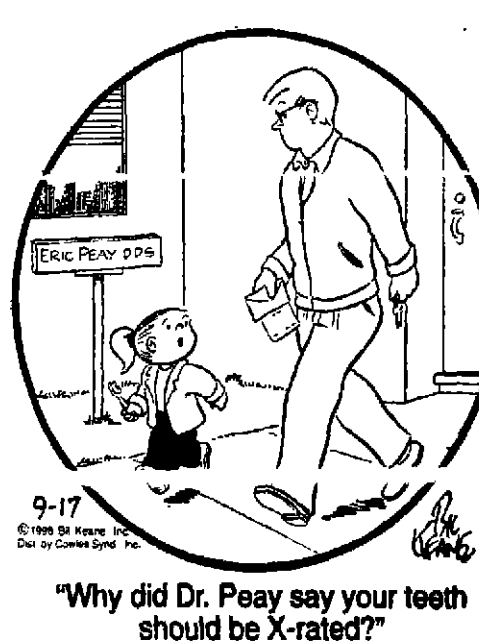
DILBERT



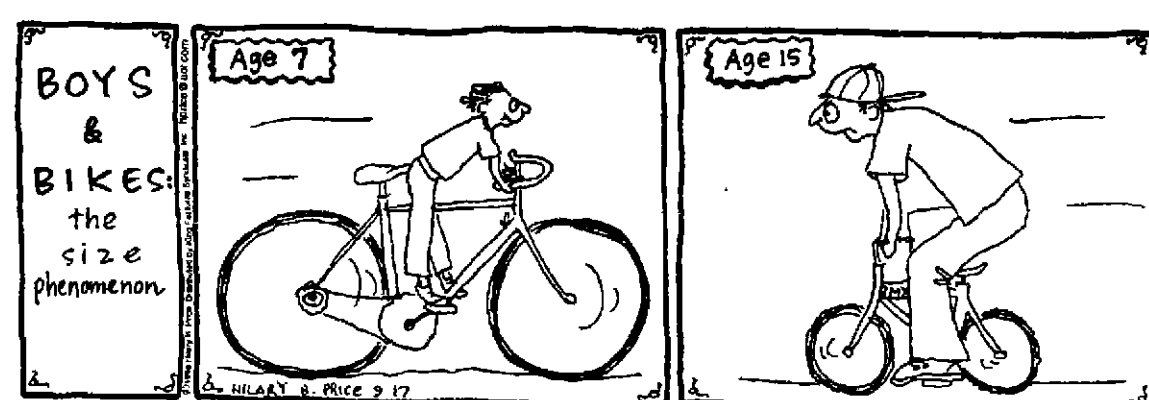
DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



HOROSCOPE

For Friday, Sept. 18, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Don't expect easy solutions; things are a little complicated, you will not become an angry.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You feel healthy, happy and well pleased with yourself. It's a good time to go on a hike or go out dancing.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Turn your attention homeward; family members need your attention.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Once you've started, you will find that you are able to work efficiently, smoothly and with a minimum of frustration.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) You are not feeling generous and might regret impulsive decisions made earlier.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Your overall humor is quite good. You should be amazed at the amount and quality of the work that you do.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You are distracted and somewhat frightened by the murmuring of your subconscious. Allow yourself to be totally noncommittal for a while.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Remember to let other people into the driver's seat occasionally.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Balance your motivation with your ability to interact with co-workers and authority figures.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Review recent and ancient history; you might find that knowledge of the past comes in handy. You feel particularly competent in all areas of life.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) You will be able to make changes, but the time is not at hand.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) A new love affair will turn your life upside down. It will be enjoyable as long as you are realistic about possibilities and consequences.

RALPH



"So that's why the cake my wife sent me tasted funny."

WORD SLEUTH

Left-handed athletes

S G D A X V S P N K B I F C A
X V S Q O L J H E I C O A X V
T N A V R A T I L O V A N R P
G N L H J G H L F D B Y X D V
R T R P T Y R R E B W A R T S
I O M K I U E O E G E D B N R
F S Z X S V R W V L U T E N E
F R A S A N Q O N E B K L H N
E J E L E M U S I A L A I A N
Y L G C I N O S A I S E T P O
L F M D C V A Y W X W V T S C

Wednesday's unlisted clue: OYSTER

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions—forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Thursday's unlisted clue hint: KEN —, JR

Bill Russell Grove Navratilova Strawberry
Bonds Laver Ruth Vilas
Connors McEnroe Spahn Wilkens
Eisason Musial Stabler

©1998 King Features, Inc.

9/17

For solution, see Classified.

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0806

- ACROSS**
- Haydn's sobriquet
 - Dimwit
 - Fearful future
 - Fine things
 - Unwelcome work
 - Fry a little
 - Stirs (up)
 - Town in west Texas
 - Atelier accessories
 - Like prisoners on gallows
 - Join
 - Rocker Joan
 - Pommel
 - Kitsch
 - Underdog's hope
 - 1980's Air Force Chief of Staff
 - La lead-in
 - Bandy words
 - New York's Island
 - Skitter
 - Tenth anniversary gift
 - Produces
 - Steak
 - Sequester
 - "The Voyage of the Beagle" writer
 - New York Shakespeare Festival founder
 - Field
 - New Jersey town on Manasquan Inlet
 - Yes man
 - Infatuated with
 - Chip giant
 - Disarray
 - L.A. hours
 - Sitting Bull, e.g.
 - Betting event
 - "Daisy Miller" author
 - Sculptures
 - "Sleeve Manner" girl

- DOWN**
- Grimm beginning
 - Exclamations of disdain
 - Sling
 - Cuatro doubled
 - Playing with a full deck
 - With a discount of
 - Two Scottish rivers
 - New York Shakespeare Festival founder
 - Field
 - New Jersey town on Manasquan Inlet
 - Yes man
 - Infatuated with
 - Chip giant
 - Disarray
 - L.A. hours
 - Sitting Bull, e.g.
 - Betting event
 - "Daisy Miller" author
 - Sculptures
 - "Sleeve Manner" girl

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

FIJI ABHOR PATH
ONOR SLIDE ECHO
ACHEAPUBEOCARIS
NAN LETS ALONE
PICS STREP
PROOFTHATIT HWS
LAPSE LOPS OOP
TAN MAYO ASIAN
NTH ISOFTENHARD
ACTON EDGE
ARNAZ GAGE WAO
TODRIVEABARGAIN
OWEN ALTAR OKRA
MADE CLOGS BEST

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

Look at all four hands of today's deal, and you won't see more than the bidding and opening lead have told an attentive declarer. West's diamond lead gives South a clear picture of the entire deal. Each opponent has promised a five-card suit, and because South must assume trumps are 2-2, the rest is simple arithmetic. West has five spades, two hearts, a singleton diamond and, therefore, five clubs. East has the same pattern, with diamonds instead of spades. Given this accurate picture, South can develop a solid plan. He takes dummy's diamond ace and leads a trump to his jack and West's ace. If West exits with his last trump, South wins and leads a spade. West must split his top honors, and dummy ducks. West now shifts to a club to South's ace, and South ruffs a club in dummy. Opening lead: Diamond eight. South leads a trump to his queen, takes a winning spade finesse, and cashes dummy's spade ace. South then leads dummy's last spade, discarding a diamond. On lead with only black cards, West has no safe exit. Declarer ruffs West's lead in dummy while discarding his last diamond. This limits the defenders to two spades and a trump, and South succeeds in compressing four obvious losers into only three. Reaching the enemy distribution is vital. It's the first step in developing a plan to take advantage of one's perceptive abilities.

NORTH 09-17-A
♠ A J 8 7
♥ 10 8 6 2
♦ A J 5 4
♣ 3

WEST **EAST**
♠ K Q 10 9 2 ♠ 3
♥ A 3 ♥ 5 4
♦ 8 ♦ K Q 10 9 3
♠ K 10 8 7 4 ♠ Q J 9 6 2

SOUTH
♠ 6 5 4
♥ K Q J 9 7
♦ 7 6 2
♣ A 5

Vulnerable: Both
Dealer: East

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ 2 ♥ Pass 4 ♥
Pass Pass Pass Pass

BRIDGE RESULTS

Bridge results from area card clubs were not available this week.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Actor Roddy McDowall is 70. Actress Anne Bancroft is 67. Actress Dorothy Loudon is 65. Singer LaMonte McLemore (The Fifth Dimension) is 59. Cartoonist Jeff MacNelly is 51. Actor John Ritter is 50. Singer Fee Waybill is 48. Actress Cassandra Peterson ("Elvira, Mistress of the Dark") is 47. Comedian Rita Rudner is 42. Actor Kyle Chandler is 33. Rapper Doug E. Fresh is 32. Actor Malik Yoba is 31. Rock musician Keith Flint (Prodigy) is 29. Rapper Vinnie (Naughty By Nature) is 28. Rhythm-and-blues singer Marcus Sanders (Hi-Five) is 25.

HISTORY

The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Sept. 17, the 260th day of 1998. There are 105 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Sept. 17, 1947, James V. Forrestal was sworn in as the first U.S. Secretary of Defense as a new National Military Establishment unified America's armed forces.

On this date:

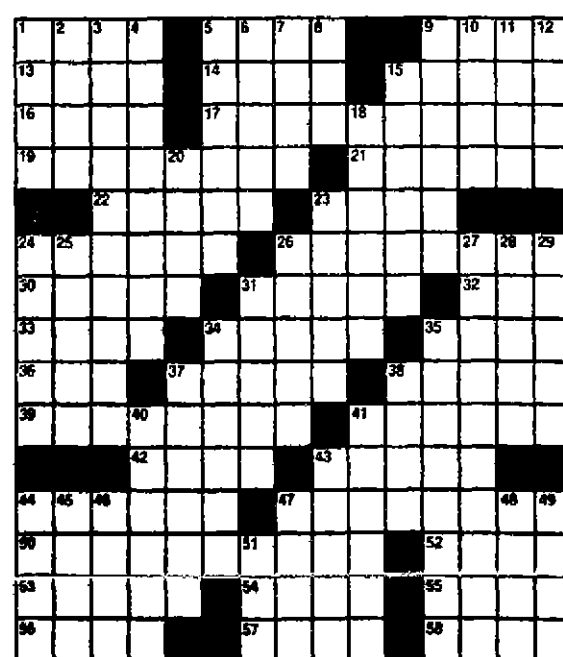
In 1787, the U.S. Constitution was completed and signed by a majority of delegates at the constitutional convention in Philadelphia.

In 1862, Union forces turned back a Confederate invasion of Maryland in the Civil War battle of Antietam.

In 1939, the Soviet Union invaded Poland, more than two weeks after Nazi Germany launched its assault.

In 1978, after meeting at Camp David, Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat signed a framework for a peace treaty.

In 1983, Vanessa Williams of New York became the first black contestant to be crowned "Miss America." The following July, she also became the first Miss America to resign in the wake of her Penthouse magazine scandal.



Puzzle by Penn and Lou Saban

- 26 "John Brown's Body" poet
27 Thousand Islands locale
28 Singer Lopez
29 Comedist
31 "M" star
34 Roxy-Critic John
36 It may come in cords
37 Punishes, in a way
38 A & W alternative
39 "Cocoon" co-star
41 Pop singer Hall and others
43 Transvaal settlers
44 Roadies' loads
46 Classical
47 Where there's smoke
48 Workout woe
49 Vintage vehicles
51 Art Ross Trochu

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-800-420-5656 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years. 1-888-7-ACROSS.